

## **CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

The Cemetery Committee, which reports to the Board of Selectmen, is composed of three members, each serving a 3-year term. In this past year the Committee has seen two members resign, Fred Dodge and William E. Clayton. Kenneth Banks and Gerald Kunst have been appointed in their place and join the Committee with Steve Gray and Roy Dudley. The Committee oversees the management, maintenance, and upkeep of the town's cemeteries.

The three cemeteries in Stow (Hillside Cemetery on Crescent Street, The Lower Village Cemetery at Great Road and Pompositticut Street, and Brookside Cemetery on Gleasondale Road and Box Mill Road) are maintained by the Superintendent and two seasonal part-time employees. They have kept the cemeteries in good shape and have allowed the Superintendent to get many projects done. They include the restoration of stone walls at the Lower Village Cemetery and the repair and restoration of many old markers that have been broken. These projects will continue into 2013 and beyond. We would like to thank the Historical Commission and the Community Preservation committee for their support in funding these projects.

The Committee is researching the viability of purchasing a leaf vacuum system to increase productivity and flexibility during the spring and fall cleanup.

The Committee would like to thank Superintendent Robb (GH) Gledhill for the outstanding work he does in maintaining all three cemeteries. We would also like to thank the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator, and all the townspeople who supported us this past year.

The Committee is always looking for anyone who would be interested in helping out with the maintenance of the cemeteries on a part-time basis. If you are interested, contact the Superintendent at the office of the Cemetery Committee in the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Banks  
Roy A. Dudley  
Gerald P. Kunst

Stephen A. Gray, Associate

Robb (GH) Gledhill, Superintendent

## **COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

The Community Preservation Act (CPA), MGL c.44B, was enacted into legislation on September 14, 2000. The goal of the Community Preservation Act is to provide communities with the means to expand their ability to pursue and implement projects that preserve or enhance their quality of life. Under this legislation, municipalities may opt to participate by adopting a property tax surcharge to create a locally-controlled Community Preservation Fund administered by a Community Preservation Committee. The state provides a match, up to a maximum of 100 percent, depending on what percentage surcharge is adopted and the number of communities participating statewide. The Community Preservation Fund can be used to fund projects related to the acquisition and preservation of open space and provision of recreational opportunities, the

creation and support of affordable housing, and the acquisition and preservation of historic buildings, landscapes and documents.

Stow voters accepted the provisions of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) at the Town Meeting in May of 2001. At the subsequent Annual Town Election, Stow voters opted to enact a property tax surcharge of 3 percent to create the Stow Community Preservation Fund. Stow voters also opted to adopt all of the possible exemptions to the surcharge. As a result, Stow is participating in a manner that maximizes the state matching funds with the least possible financial impact to the community.

The fiscal year ending June 30, 2012 was the eleventh year of collections and state matching grants. In October 2012 Stow was awarded \$174,492 – a 38 percent match – greatly increasing our community's ability to undertake CPA-eligible projects. State matching funds have been awarded each year in which Stow has participated (over \$3 million in state matching funds awarded to date). Community Preservation funds are deposited in a locally controlled, interest-bearing account. Additionally, Stow has earned over \$680,000 in interest on CPA funds since adoption in 2001. All projects recommended by the CPC must be approved by a majority vote at Town Meeting before expenditures can be made from Stow's Community Preservation Fund.

At the Annual Town Meeting in May of 2012, Town Meeting voters approved Community Preservation warrant articles for appropriating funds for Part 1 of a Historic Document Preservation Project (\$100,000), a consultant for the Stow Municipal Affordable Housing Trust (\$7,200), Community Preservation administrative purposes (\$31,000) and for making the Community Preservation annual reserves required under the Community Preservation Act: Acquisition and Preservation of Historic Buildings and Landscapes (\$63,000), Acquisition and Preservation of Open Space and Recreation Land (\$63,000), and Acquisition and Support of Affordable Housing (\$63,000).

The CPC looks forward to working with others to implement additional Community Preservation projects selected by Town Meeting voters. The prospect of receiving increased state matching funds appears promising for 2013.

The Committee thanks the residents who served as CPC members in 2012 in addition to their positions on their respective boards/committees/commissions/etc. In addition, the Committee would like to thank and acknowledge Bob Wilber for his 12 years of dedication and service to the Community Preservation Committee. Bob played an instrumental role when the Town adopted the Community Preservation Act and served as Chair to the CPC from 2001 – 2012. The committee would also like to thank Kathleen Willis for her service as the Planning Board representative and Dom Pugliese for his service as the Assessors' representative.

Respectfully submitted,

**Member**

Mike Busch

Bill Byron

Wayne Fletcher (Jan-July)

**Committee Represented**

Recreation Commission

Council on Aging

Historical Commission

<b>Member</b>	<b>Committee Represented</b>
Karen Gray (Aug-Dec)	Historical Commission
Bob Larkin	Housing Authority
Peter McManus	Finance Committee
Dominick Pugliese	Board of Assessors
Kathy Sferra	Conservation Commission
Bob Wilber, Chairman	Open Space Committee
Kathleen Willis	Planning Board
Deb Seith	Administrative Assistant

#### COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE PROJECT STATUS REPORT

	Original Project Cost	Final Project Cost
<b>Totals for Open Space/Recreation</b>	<b>\$ 2,211,600.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,167,899.89</b>
Conservation Comm Acquisition of Open Space	\$ 50,000.00	
Acq Open Space Tyler APR \$21,500		
Hale Woodlands	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
Lake Boon Preservation Project	\$ 77,000.00	\$ 33,299.89
Assabet Rail Trail Easement	\$ 227,000.00	\$ 135,949.50
Moseley APR	\$ 23,600.00	\$ 23,600.00
Maple Street CR for SCT	\$ 80,000.00	
Snow Property Acquisition	\$ 673,000.00	\$ 658,899.46
Stow Community Park Construction	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 999,595.93
Design Plan for Track Road Rail Trail	\$ 46,000.00	
<b>Totals for Historical</b>	<b>\$ 268,419.00</b>	<b>\$ 260,362.36</b>
Exp-West School Parking/Access	\$ 20,000.00	
Secure Blacksmith School	\$ 929.00	\$ 745.00
Lower Village Cemetery Wall Restoration	\$ 9,990.00	\$ 9,918.28
Lower Village Cemetery Wall Restoration #2	\$ 19,500.00	\$ 14,199.08
Lower Village Cemetery Wall Restoration #3	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 17,500.00
Rehab Monuments & Headstones	\$ 48,000.00	
Historic Document Preservation Project	\$ 100,000.00	
Townwide Inventory of Historic Properties	\$ 50,000.00	
<b>Totals for Affordable Housing</b>	<b>\$ 2,357,200.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,357,200.00</b>
Pilot Grove Perpetual Deed Restrictions	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 350,000.00
Exp-Purchase Perpetual Deed Restriction	\$ 250,000.00	
Consultant SMAHT	\$ 7,200.00	
Pilot Grove and Plantation Expansions	\$ 1,750,000.00	